



# Thomas Frank Conti

MAY 13, 1972 - FEB 7, 2026



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# Thomas Frank Conti

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**T**homas “Tom” Conti lived a life defined by service, strength, loyalty, and deep love for his family and community.

Tom believed deeply in embracing life to the fullest and was guided by words he loved from one of his favorite book series: “Your life is yours alone. Rise up and live it.” He approached each day with energy, intention, and a deep appreciation for the time we are given. Though his life ended earlier than anyone expected, the impact he made and the memories he created will endure far beyond his years.

Tom proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps from 1990 to 1995, earning the rank of Sergeant and an Honorable Discharge. As a CH-53E Crew Chief and Shop NCO, he led 20 Marines, oversaw 18 aircraft, and logged more than 1,000 flight hours in support of Operations Desert Storm and Southern Watch. A Marine through and through, he carried that pride with him throughout his life.

Following his service, Tom built a distinguished career in aviation maintenance and aerospace manufacturing spanning nearly three decades. He began with DynCorp as a helicopter mechanic, ensuring aircraft safety and flight readiness while frequently serving in supervisory roles. Tom later joined Boeing, where he worked on F/A-18 aircraft, leading teams through testing and modification projects in support of engineering and mission success. He continued his career with Lockheed Martin as an Electrical Assembler, assembling production components, interpreting technical blueprints, and supporting workplace efficiency initiatives. Known for his strong work ethic and integrity, Tom was widely respected for speaking up for his team and championing improvement. Across every chapter of his career, Tom was defined by technical mastery, integrity, and unwavering dedication.

Beyond his profession, Tom was an avid reader of fantasy fiction whose imagination and love of storytelling shaped many passions. He played Dungeons & Dragons throughout his life and treasured the camaraderie of his “Blades, Beasts and Bad Decisions” group, where his rogue



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tabaxi, Rex Orlon, reflected his creativity and spirit. His love of history and martial arts led him to the Society for Creative Anachronism, where he found his true calling among the armored combatants of the Kingdoms of Atlantia and Trimaris. Known as Sir Theron Andronikos, he received the Society's highest worldwide honor for prowess and chivalry and was regarded as a true Knight. A great teacher and selfless volunteer, he was known as both a fierce opponent and gentle friend. Whether fighting on the front lines or sharing laughter around a fire, his generosity and willingness to share his knowledge will live on in the hearts of many. He also enjoyed playing darts in a weekly league with friends.

Those who knew Tom knew a man of strength, loyalty, and unmistakable presence, balanced by warmth, humor, and a generous spirit. He gave his time freely, shared his knowledge readily, and stood firmly for what he believed in. Whether mentoring others, debating history, rolling dice at the gaming table, or simply sharing a laugh with friends, Tom showed up fully, authentically, and wholeheartedly.

Tom loved deeply and was deeply loved in return. At the center of his life was his wife, Lisa, who had been part of his world for almost 40 years — first as friends, then as best friends, and ultimately as partners. Through every season of life, they continued to choose one another, building a bond rooted in loyalty, resilience, and enduring commitment. He was a proud father to his son, Matt, and a loving and steadfast father to Brenna, who never doubted that he was her dad in every way that mattered. His guidance, strength, and unconditional love shaped their lives and will remain part of them always. He loved pets — especially dogs — and deeply cherished his Scottish Terrier, Connor, whose companionship brought him great joy and meant so much to him.

Tom is survived by his beloved wife, Lisa Conti; son, Matt Conti, and his girlfriend, Caitlin Gagnon; daughter, Brenna Vidal, and her husband, Alex; sister, Kathy Conti DeFeis, and her husband, Scott; brother, Rich Conti, and his wife, Karen; nephews, Drew and Devin DeFeis and Jarrod Conti; nieces, Taylor Velasco and her husband, Logan, and Danielle Conti; as well as three grandnieces and one grandnephew.

In keeping with Tom's wishes, the family will hold a celebration of life rather than formal funeral services. The gathering will be held May 9 in Thonotosassa, Florida, with additional details to be shared as they become available.



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In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tom's memory to [Weird Enough](#), an organization dedicated to supporting youth mental health through the transformative power of books. An avid reader and passionate collector of fantasy fiction, Tom believed deeply in the power of stories to inspire, comfort, and shape who we become.



# Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.



February 24 at 12:30 PM



**George Sartiano** posted:

I remember 25 years ago getting a random message from a guy named Tom, first saying I was recommended as being an "expert" on Byzantine armor, and Tom asking for recommendations on helmets to fit a " Byzantine persona". Of course I helped! I got to watch him grow in his historical interests and in his skill as a fighter!! will miss him.

February 20 at 5:52 AM



**Social Luis** posted:

Hey Tom, I know we weren't close friends, we were too different. You were the Italian kid from New Jersey, I was the Puerto Rican kid from NYC. You were Country, I was hip hop and rap. You were motorcycles, I was cars. You were a crew chief, I was a Mech, You were upfront and outgoing, I kept to myself and watched from a distance. The one thing we do have in common, and supersedes all differences, was our brotherhood. You were one of the first marines I met after boot camp. No attitude, didn't talk down to me, just respectful and welcoming. I will always remember that. Then we ended up in the same squadron. Same. Never disrespectful. Never demeaning, treated me with respect and dignity. Not sure I deserved it, but you did it anyway. Tom = courage. He was the first person I ever saw do karaoke. In front of a large crowd too. He didn't care. It was country and I can't remember if he was any good, but still, no way I would have had the courage to do that. At least sober. Tom, I always had the upmost respect for you. I was hoping we could get together again. Reminiscing of old times. You will be missed, RIP my brother. Semper Fi Gone to soon Grrrr Tiger Zeek...out.

February 17 at 2:28 PM



**Johnnie Jones** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Tom, You were taken to soon my friend. But your light will always shine with your family and friends. From one vet to another, thank you for your service. RIP Marine.



February 17 at 11:48 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Lisa Conti** shared 11 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

I'm sharing a few memories that reflect the life Tom lived — the love he shared, the people he cherished, and the activities that brought him joy. These moments will forever live in my heart.

February 16 at 8:54 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Thomas.

February 16 at 9:30 PM



**Rachael Martin** lit a candle in honor of Thomas.

"Uncle" Tom was an inspiration to me growing up. He showed me what respect, chivalry and honor mean. He showed camaraderie with my Father, and was one of his dearest friends. As I grew up and our lives took different paths I always remembered his laugh and how he looked after me as a kid. I will miss him dearly.

February 16 at 8:54 PM





## Media

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**Johnnie Jones** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

February 17 at 11:48 AM





# Media

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Lisa Conti shared 11 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

February 17 at 10:58 AM

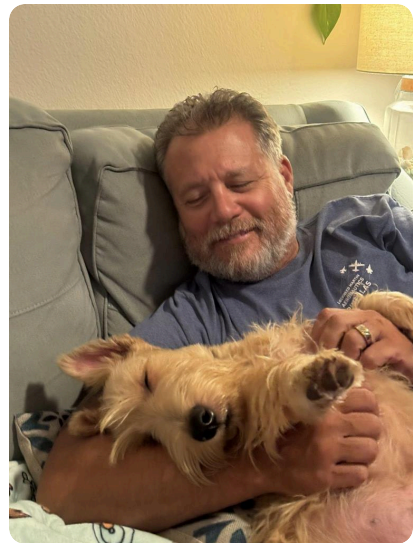
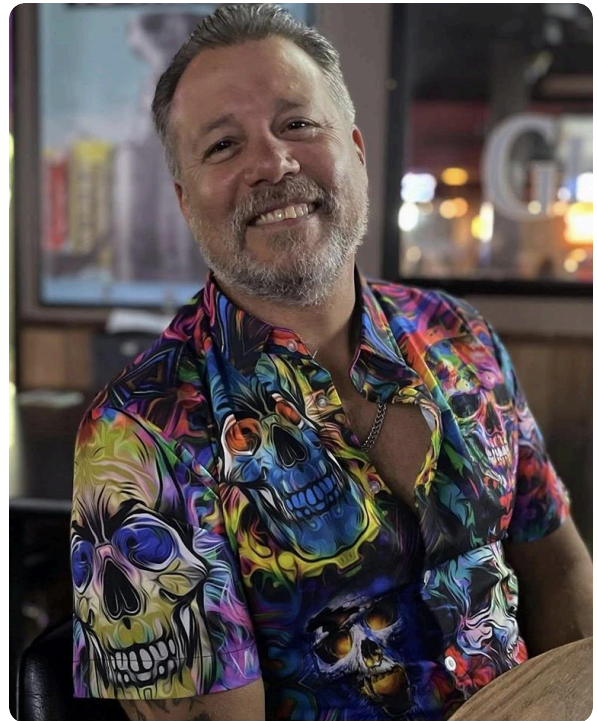




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## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Thomas by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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